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"Bets asked if I would n't give her some tea? I told her I would if she'd wait till tea time come? So I went down into the cellar, and I got a pound o' butter, and a pound o' pound cake, and a pound o' shortcake, and two pounds o' sage cheese o' my own making. Bets Wade never put better in her mouth in her life, and I brought 'em up, and I put 'em on the table, and I said, 'Bets, eat!' and, good Lord, she did eat! If she eat one mouthful, she ate two pounds. I should think the critter had n't had anything to eat for a month.

"She said she believed she must go, for she had an antic horse and new shay. Antic horse! the critter wan't bigger than a Newfoundland dog; they had to tie the poor critter to a post to keep him from tumbling down! And as for the chaise, that was made in Adam's day, and then it wan't new! And if Bets Wade ever got a ride off that horse she did well. No, she never did! They had to take the poor critter into the chaise afore they got home."

Ellen Chase.

DEATH AT THE EBBING OF THE TIDE. It is a common belief among the natives of towns along the Connecticut shore of Long Island Sound, that when a person lies at the point of death, his soul will not depart until the ebbing of the tide.

Geo. L. Parnell.

CARRYING CORPSES FEET FIRST. A correspondent desires information as to the origin of this custom. It seems only the natural way of speeding the dead on his journey; to look backwards would tend to defeat the departure, and therefore the end of the ceremony. So the body was properly placed with feet toward the door of the chamber of death. But in modern cultivated usage, these ideas and the associated practices have lost their currency.

W. W. N.

LOCAL MEETINGS AND OTHER NOTICES.

SUMMER MEETING OF THE AMERICAN FOLK-LORE SOCIETY, BOSTON, MASS., AUGUST 25, 1898. — In connection with the fiftieth Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Boston, Mass., August 22 to 27, will be held a Summer Meeting of the American Folk-Lore Society. The Society will unite with Section H (Anthropology) of A. A. A. S. Thursday, August 25, will be set aside for the readings of papers relating to folk-lore, and members of this Society desiring to offer such papers will communicate their titles to W. W. Newell, Magnolia, Mass., or to M. H. Saville, Secretary of Section H, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park, New York, N. Y.

Energetic preparations have been made to render the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the A. A. A. S. in every way an interesting and important occasion. It is to be hoped that there may be a correspondingly

numerous attendance; members of the American Folk Lore Society, not already members of A. A. A. S., will be welcomed as additions to the latter.

AMERICAN FOLK-LORE SOCIETY, BOSTON BRANCH. — *Friday, January 18.* The regular meeting was held at the apartment of Mrs. Lee Hoffman, in "The Abbotsford." In the absence of the President, Professor Putnam, Mr. Frank Russell, Vice-President, occupied the chair. Miss Annie Beecher Scoville, of the Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., described "The Education of an Indian Child." As an illustration, Miss Scoville portrayed the life of a typical Ogallala Sioux from birth until the age of thirteen or fourteen years, giving an account of childish games, and of the stories related to children in order to inculcate moral truths. Examples were given of the fact that the influence of woman predominates in the education of Indian children. After the address, Indian folk-lore was related by an Indian student of Harvard University who is engaged in making a special study of the traditions of his race.

Friday, March 25. The meeting was held at the house of Mrs. W. B. Kehew, 317 Beacon Street, Mr. W. W. Newell presiding. Mr. George Bird Grinnell, the speaker of the evening, gave an entertaining account of customs and traditions among Cheyenne Indians, based on his own experience acquired by residence. War songs were reproduced with the phonograph. Mr. Benjamin Ives Gilman, who has made a study of Indian music as collected by the phonograph, Miss Scoville, and Mr. Montague Chamberlain were among the speakers who took part in the subsequent discussion.

Friday, April 29. The monthly meeting (deferred two weeks) was held at "The Charlesgate," Mr. W. W. Newell presiding. This being the annual meeting, officers were elected for the ensuing year, as follows: *President*, Prof. F. W. Putnam. *Vice-Presidents*, Mr. W. W. Newell, Mr. Frank Russell. *Treasurer*, Mr. Montague Chamberlain. *Secretary*, Miss Helen Leah Reed. *Council*, Dr. C. A. Pope, Mrs. E. F. Fenollosa, Mrs. G. B. Valiant, Dr. Sarah E. Palmer, Mr. A. R. Tisdale, Mr. Ashton Willard.

The speaker of the evening was Prof. D. G. Lyon of Harvard University, who gave an account of "The Babylonian-Assyrian Religion," illustrated with lantern slides.

Helen Leah Reed, Secretary.

CINCINNATI BRANCH. — *March 8.* The meeting was held at the house of Dr. C. D. Crank. Dr. D. Philipson gave a very interesting discourse on the "Legendary Tales of the Patriarch Abraham." At the birth of Abraham, as of other great men, a wonderful star was seen in the heavens; he was exposed to the flames for three days without being injured; he was tempted by Satan, etc. By Dr. Philipson the story of the sacrifice of Isaac is believed to be a protest against the practice of child-sacrifice. The tales noticed are from the Talmud and the Midrash, the latter being a collection of light literature belonging to the eighth century, and there-

fore doubtless influenced by the folk-lore of the various peoples with whom the Jews had come in contact.

April 19. The Society met in the room of the Woman's Club. The annual election took place, and the following officers were elected, to serve for the year 1898-99: *President*, Prof. Charles L. Edwards. *First Vice-President*, Mrs. G. A. Thayer. *Second Vice-President*, Mr. F. A. King. *Secretary*, Miss Therese Kirchberger. *Treasurer*, Mr. L. M. Savage. *Advisory Committee*, Dr. D. Philipson, Dr. I. D. Buck, Miss Annie Laws, Mrs. A. D. McLeod. After the business meeting, Professor Edwards gave his lecture on the "Current Superstitions of the Bahamas," followed by a series of views representing the scenery of the islands, which were highly enjoyed.

Therese Kirchberger, Secretary.

WASHINGTON.—The Folk-Lore Section of the Woman's Anthropological Society, of Washington, D. C., held a meeting and reception at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Moore, on Wednesday evening, December 8, 1897. Miss Alice C. Fletcher presided; and Mrs. Marianna P. Seaman read a paper on "Gloves: their History, Customs, and Folk-lore;" Prof. Otis T. Mason, of the National Museum, gave an account of "The Women who have gone to live in the sky," or, the deification of certain abstract conceptions in regard to the workings of nature; and Col. Weston Flint spoke of Chinese folk-lore as he had observed it. The papers were discussed by Prof. Cleveland Abbe, of the Weather Bureau, Dr. Frank Baker, and Prof. Thomas Wilson, of the Smithsonian Institution, and others.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

BOOKS.

ZBORNIK ZA NARODNI ŽIVOT I OBIČAJE JUŽNIH SLAVENA (Journal of the National Life and Customs of the Southern Slavs), published by the Jugoslavenska akademija znanosti i umjetnosti, edited by Prof. IVAN MILČETIĆ, Part I. Zagreb (Agram), 1896. Pp. viii, 368, l. 8°.

Though among the first to collect the folk-lore of the people, the Croats are the last of the Slavs to found a periodical for a methodical glean- ing of what little may still be left of the creation of the popular mind. Poland set the example for all such publications by its "Zbiór wiadomości do antropologii Krajowej," which is edited by the Academy of Sciences at Cracow, and which has now reached its eighteenth volume. In it have appeared the important anthropological investigations of Majer, Koper- nicki, Olechnowicz, and a vast amount of material of a more general ethnological character. In the mean while Karłowicz began his "Wisła" in Warsaw in 1887. While claiming to be a geographical-ethnological magazine, yet in reality it almost entirely deals with folk-lore, there having appeared in it but two geographical essays.